GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:457
ANSWERED ON:28.02.2000
EXCLUSION OF KERALA FROM CRZ .
P.C. THOMAS

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of land affected by the restrictions under the Coastal Regulation Zone, State-wise;

(b) the percentage of land under the Kerala State coming under this zone;

(c) whether the State has requested for its exclusion from the Coastal Regulation Zone; and

(d) if so, the action taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI)
(a) & (b) The area under the Coastal Regulation Zone can only be arrived at after the final approval of the Coastal Zone Management Plans. The Coastal Zone Management Plans submitted by the coastal States and Union Territories were approved provisionally by the Ministry of Environment and Forests subject to the fulfilment of conditions specified in the approval letters issued in September, 1996.
(c) The State Government of Kerala requested for relaxation in the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991 to accommodate the unique characteristics of Kerala.
(d) The request of the State Government of Kerala was considered in the Ministry of Environment and Forests and the Balakrishna Nair Committee was constituted in December, 1996 to examine the issues raised. The Committee submitted its report in March, 1997. Some of the accepted recommendations of this were incorporated in an amendment to the CRZ Notification, 1991 issued on 9th July, 1997. The recommendations regarding criteria for reduction of the CRZ along rivers, estuaries, creeks and backwaters and infrastructure development and residential construction in the No Development Zone of the CRZ in Kerala were referred to the Saldanha Committee in June, 1997 for further examination in the context of the CRZ in the entire country. The recommendations of the Saldanha Committee, received in September, 1998, were incorporated in a draft amendment to the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991 issued on 5th August, 1999.